

Senate Resolution 357

By: Senator Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th

ADOPTED

A RESOLUTION

Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

PART I

WHEREAS, Major McGuire was born February 6, 1920, in Tampa, Florida, and died on September 9, 1992, in Appling County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, he received his pilot's wings at Bush Field in Augusta, Georgia, when he was only 21 years of age, and served his country in the Army Air Corps; and

WHEREAS, he completed six circumnavigations of the world; and

WHEREAS, he flew in North Africa during World War II and also flew judges in and out of Berlin during the Nuremberg trials; and

WHEREAS, Major McGuire flew the first plane into Goose Bay, Labrador, where there was no runway; and

WHEREAS, he was the first pilot to land a four-engine plane at the North Pole; and

WHEREAS, he was promoted to the rank of Major at the age of 31 and retired at 33 after suffering a severe heart attack; and

WHEREAS, he returned to Georgia in 1958 after serving as a city councilman in North Miami Beach, Florida; and

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that this courageous soldier and pilot be honored with a lasting memorial for his service to his country.

PART II

WHEREAS, the late L. M. Moye, Jr., was a distinguished citizen and resident of Stewart County, Georgia, for the majority of his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, he was affectionately known in and around Stewart County during his lifetime as "Red" Moye and made substantial civic and community contributions to the State of Georgia, and County of Stewart; and

WHEREAS, he was a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology and served his country in World War II as a U.S. Navy Lt. Commander during the North African Campaign, as well as performing active duty military service at Sicily, Anzio, Palermo, and Normandy; and

WHEREAS, L. M. Moye, Jr., was awarded and decorated with the Purple Heart as a result of his military service to the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, among his achievements and contributions in the areas of historic preservation, he was an original founder and assisted with the early stewardship of Westville Village, and donated land and otherwise worked to establish and promote the Singer-Moye Indian Mounds so that both of these museums could be enjoyed in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, he helped to establish the Stewart County Fire Unit of the Georgia Forestry Commission, served as Stewart County's District Supervisor on the Lower Chattahoochee Soil and Water Conservation Board, and also served a term as State President; and

WHEREAS, L. M. Moye, Jr., served his community in various capacities as a volunteer, including service as a Little League and Pony League baseball coach, Cub Scout leader, and member of Cuthbert Presbyterian Church; and

WHEREAS, he established and maintained a home in Stewart County with his wife, Sue McLendon Moye, whom he married in 1945, and together they raised two sons, Andrew J. Moye, III, and Matthew M. Moye, on the family homeplace located three miles south of Lumpkin, Georgia, on the family plantation which has been owned by the family since 1853; and

WHEREAS, the Moye home located in Stewart County was built in 1836 and remains in excellent condition due to the stewardship of L. M. Moye, Jr., and his spouse, who still resides in the home; and

WHEREAS, L. M. Moye, Jr., employed his personal motto to "leave the place in better shape than you found it" in various aspects of his life, including his work and his support of historic preservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Stewart County deems it fitting and appropriate to honor the achievements and contributions of the late L. M. "Red" Moye, Jr., by designating a permanent public memorial near his homeplace.

PART III

WHEREAS, Eddie Wiggins will soon be stepping down as the chairman of the 21st Century Partnership; and

WHEREAS, he was a founding father of the partnership in 1993 and has served as chairman since 1999; and

WHEREAS, normally a chairman serves a two-year term, but Eddie Wiggins remained as chairman due to repeated requests from the community and his absolute passion for Robins Air Force Base and Middle Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Wiggins successfully guided Robins Air Force Base and the community through many challenging issues including reduced budgets, privatization threats, lack of adequate on-base and off-base housing, and lack of medical participation in the TRICARE program; and

WHEREAS, since 1993, Robins Air Force Base has grown from about 18,000 to 27,000 personnel, increased its economic impact on Georgia from \$2.3 billion to \$4.2 billion, and survived three base closure and realignment rounds; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Wiggins is known nationally as Middle Georgia's Mr. Air Force, and he deserves recognition for dedicating his heart and soul to Robins Air Force Base and the airmen who serve our great country so proudly.

PART IV

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on SR 104 at Keg Creek, in Columbia County, be dedicated as the Major Byron S. McGuire, Sr. Memorial Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the bridge over Pataula Creek on US 27 in Stewart County be dedicated as the L. M. Moye, Jr. Memorial Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the Russell Parkway bridge over SR 247 in Houston County as the Eddie Wiggins Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facilities named in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation, to the family of Major Byron S. McGuire, Sr., to the family of L. M. Moye, Jr., and to Eddie Wiggins.